



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

WWE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/024,669	12/14/2001	Gordon N. McGrew	112703-213	2933
29156	7590	02/23/2004		
BELL, BOYD & LLOYD LLC			EXAMINER	
P. O. BOX 1135			CORBIN, ARTHUR L	
CHICAGO, IL 60690-1135			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1761	

DATE MAILED: 02/23/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No. <i>(1024,669)</i>	Applicant(s) <i>McGraw Et Al</i>
Examiner <i>Arthur L. Corbin</i>	Group Art Unit <i>1761</i>

—The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet beneath the correspondence address—

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, such period shall, by default, expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

Responsive to communication(s) filed on 1-13-03, 2-14-02

This action is **FINAL**.

Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

Claim(s) 1-31 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration.

Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

Claim(s) 1-31 is/are rejected.

Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement

Application Papers

The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is approved disapproved.

The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner

The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d)

Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d).

All Some* None of the:

Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received
in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a))

*Certified copies not received: _____

Attachment(s)

Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____ Interview Summary, PTO-413

Notice of Reference(s) Cited, PTO-892 Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948 Other _____

Office Action Summary

1. In view of the papers filed January 13, 2003, it has been found that this nonprovisional application, as filed, through error and without deceptive intent, improperly set forth the inventorship, and accordingly, this application has been corrected in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(a). The inventorship of this application has been changed by addition of David W. Record.

The application will be forwarded to the Office of Initial Patent Examination (OIPE) for issuance of a corrected filing receipt, and correction of the file jacket and PTO PALM data to reflect the inventorship as corrected.

2. Claims 10, 26 and 33 are objected to because of the following informalities: In claims 10 and 26, a comma should be added after "eucalyptol". In claim 33, line 5, the comma should be changed to a semicolon. Appropriate correction is required.

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter, which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. Claims 10, 26 and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 10, 26 and 33 are indefinite as to scope in reciting "such as kooklin" (claims 10, 26 and 33) and "such as Sanguinaria" (claim 26) since these result in a ~~genus~~ and species thereof in a single claim. Corrections are required without new matter.

Art Unit: 1761

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claims 1-4, 7-10, 12, 15-17, 21-23, 26-29 and 32-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Hill.

Hill discloses a method of preparing a dental hygiene gum including coating a chewing gum center with an emulsion including a zinc salt, e.g. zinc chloride; a surfactant, e.g. polyethylene glycol stearate; menthol; an edible oil, e.g. cinnamon oil; and a beneficial component, e.g. silica.

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 5, 6, 11, 13, 14, 18-20, 24, 25, 30, 31, 36 and 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hill in view of D' Ameila et al.

It would have been obvious to substitute one of applicant's claimed zinc or copper salts for the zinc salt in Hill and include said salt in the gum center since it is old to formulate a chewing gum having hygiene benefits, e.g. breath freshening benefits, to include one of applicant's zinc or copper salts, as evidenced by D' Ameila et al (columns 1-3). Further, it would have been obvious to substitute a vegetable oil for the flavor oil in the coating of Hill since vegetable oil is an ^{alterative} ~~alterative~~ physiologically acceptable oil

Art Unit: 1761

that can be combined with a zinc or copper compound and a surfactant in preparing a chewing gum having dental hygiene benefits, as evidenced by D' Ameila et al (column 2).

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication from the examiner should be directed to Arthur L. Corbin whose telephone number is (571) 272-1399. The examiner can generally be reached on Tuesday--Friday from 10:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and on alternate Mondays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Milton Cano can be reached on (571) 272-1398. The fax phone number for the organization where this application is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-0987.

A. Corbin/dh
February 10, 2004


ARTHUR L. CORBIN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

2-18-04